be given control over all police officers except the head of that department; (5) that a police school might be opened in the State to give a regular and all-round training to policemen; (6) that authority to prosecute police officers below the rank of Assistant Superintendents might be given to the people without the formal sanction of Government; (7) that strict rules might be framed for efficient supervision of the force by the superior officers; (8) that power to investigate might be taken away from head constables and vested only in Inspectors of police; (9) that a detective police force might be attached to the police army from men who might have received a special training in that line; and (10) that the southern frontier might be efficiently guarded to prevent the frequent inroads of dacoits from Tinnevelly.

*Mr. M. Bhaskara Menon, B. A., B. L.*, (*Parur*) suggested that two graduates who are physically fit might be sent every year for training in the Vellore police training school and they might be asked to acquire a fair knowledge of criminal law and evidence.

*Mr. K. C. Eapen, B. A.*, (*Kshemathalpara Samajam, Kadapra, Tiruvalla*), *Mr. N. Govinda Pillai* (*Kunnattur*), *Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer* (*Shencottah*), *Mr. N. Vasudevan Pillai* (*Kartigapalli*) *and Mr. Kesavan Padmanabhan* (*Mavelikara*) also spoke on the same subject.

*Reply.*—Much as I wish that none of these matters should come up next year, I fear that subjects like the one now brought up cannot disappear altogether. It is doubtful whether the system of police can be said to be perfect anywhere. Police reform is not the work of a month or a year. Even in British India, it took four or five years for the Government to give the people their first instalment of reform in this direction, and this must have caused a very large sum of money. We shall watch the effect of these reforms and try to adopt in course of time whatever might be found suited to local needs and conditions and to the extent that our finances will permit. The useful suggestions made by the members will also be then considered.

## III. Forests.

### 111. Improvement of Forest revenue.

*Mr. S. Swamy Iyengar of Trivandrum* (*Nominated*) said that

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he would submit in due course a memorandum on the various methods of improving the forest revenue of the State.

*Reply.*—The matter is engaging the attention of Government and the memorandum promised by the member will also be considered when received.

**112. Present decrease in forest revenue owing to the negligence of the controlling officers of the department.**

*Mr. Padmanabhan Parameswaran* (*Pathanapuram*) remarked that the wealth of Travancore lay chiefly in its forests, but it was painful to note that the revenue derived from them was considerably less than from those of Cochin or Mysore. The budget allotment for the Forest department was out of all proportion to the revenue realized therefrom. Much valuable timber was smuggled away and tracts unfit for the purpose were included among reserves and a large establishment kept up in charge of them. Many false cases were concocted against poor people by forest officers and this resulted in great hardship. He suggested that all lands on the sides of water-courses within forests might be registered in the names of private individuals and such other measures devised by Government as would tend to secure the realisation of a larger revenue from the Forest department to the State than it had been possible hitherto.

*Mr. Narayanan Velayudhan* (*Pathanapuram*) also spoke on the subject.

*Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai* (*Chengannur*) pointed out that it was necessary to settle first of all what lands should be treated as reserves. It was doubtful whether the present area of reserves should be maintained intact. It should also be settled on what plan and principle reserves should be formed in future. Free permission should be given to private persons to cultivate teak and other valuable trees for Government. Lands within reserves should not be registered permanently in the name of any one, but might be leased out for priodical cultivation.

*Mr. K. Kochu Thomman* (*Chengannur*) suggested that the sides of the Ranni and Konni rivers might be registered in the names of private individuals for 3 years after which they would become fit for the cultivation of teak trees.

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